

VERONA E. POLLOCK.

MAY 24, 1898.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. GRAFF, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 153.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 153) for the relief of Verona E. Pollock, having carefully considered the same, report the bill back to the House with the recommendation that it be amended by striking out, in line 7 of said bill, the words "thirteen thousand" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "six thousand eight hundred and forty," and as amended the bill do pass.

In support of this recommendation the committee submit the annexed report made by the Committee on Claims of the Senate of the present Congress and an affidavit of the claimant, which fully sets forth the facts.

[Senate Report No. 508, Fifty-fifth Congress, second session.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 153) for the relief of Verona E. Pollock, after carefully examining the same, beg leave to report as follows:

We recommend that the bill be amended by striking out the word "seventeen," in line 7, and inserting in lieu thereof "thirteen," so that the bill will carry an appropriation of \$13,000.

This claim was thoroughly examined by us during the second session of the Fifty-fourth Congress, and favorably reported in Report No. 1480, which we append as a part hereof.

With the proposed committee amendment adopted, your committee favorably recommend the passage of the bill.

Senate Report No. 1480, Fifty-fourth Congress, second session.

Mr. ALLEN, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 3510.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3510) for the relief of Verona E. Pollock, have examined the same, and beg leave to report as follows:

Mrs. Pollock is the widow of Alexander L. Pollock, late United States consul to San Salvador, Republic of Salvador, Central America. Consul Pollock was commissioned September 23, 1893, and assumed the duties of his office January 5, 1894. At that time the Republic of Salvador was peaceful and its Government apparently well established. There was no prevailing epidemic, and the climatic conditions seemed favorable, and Consul Pollock sent for his wife and three children, who joined him at San Salvador April 7, 1894. The family carried with them a great many treasures of art and other valuables, accumulated during years of travel in this and other countries, for the purpose of establishing themselves in comfort during what Consul Pollock supposed would be a long term of service for his Government; but within one week after Mrs. Pollock and her children reached San Salvador one of the most terrible revolutions ever known in that country burst upon the Republic and was concentrated at San Salvador.

Consul Pollock had been a soldier in the service of his country, and had learned to obey the call of duty at whatever cost; and immediately, at the risk of destruction of all that he held dear, he devoted himself incessantly to the guardianship over the lives and property of other American citizens temporarily sojourning in Salvador. Battles raged even about the consulate. The streets were polluted with the dead bodies of soldiers and insurrectionists; yellow fever appeared in its most horrible form, becoming almost instantly epidemic. Consul Pollock was stricken, and died September 7, 1894. Mrs. Pollock had remained at his bedside until his death, and then herself took the fever and was removed to Santa Tecla, a neighboring town, where her little children joined her, her eldest son also being stricken with the fever. No medical or other efficient attendance could be had. In the throes of the revolution, it was impossible for Mrs. Pollock to secure her personal effects, and after weeks of such agony of mind and physical deprivation as few could endure and live, she and her three children were carried to a United States ship, their sole earthly possessions being the scanty clothing which they wore, and were brought back to this country, landing in San Francisco.

From that day to this Mrs. Pollock has been utterly unable to perform any labor by which to maintain herself and her children. The awful shock to her nervous system has resulted in her being utterly unfit for continuous exertion, and the effect upon her children is also noticeable. Previous to his appointment in the diplomatic service, Consul Pollock incurred hernia in the military service of the United States. It is possible that his death was immediately caused by the strangulation of such hernia, induced by the agonies of yellow fever. Mrs. Pollock had applied for pension as his widow, but the application was rejected on the ground that Consul Pollock's death was due to yellow fever.

The State Department paid many bills incurred during the illness of Consul Pollock, and in the rescue of Mrs. Pollock and her children from Salvador, and has done all in its power at all times to secure the return or an accounting of the property which the family carried to Salvador, and which was totally lost to them, but without avail.

Mr. Pollock and her children are now resident in Washington, where she is dependent upon the assistance of friends and such insufficient efforts as herself and children can put forth in their own behalf.

There have been numerous cases in which, under circumstances justifying the same, Congress has made allowances to the widows or estates of diplomatic officers. A few precedents are here cited:

The appropriation act approved March 3, 1879, gave to Mrs. Taylor, widow of Bayard Taylor, who died while minister to Germany, the sum of \$7,000 to compensate his estate for the extraordinary expenses and losses incurred by it in consequence of his death so soon after reaching his post.

The joint resolution approved July 28, 1882, gave to Mrs. Hurlbut, widow of General Hurlbut (Captain Phelps's immediate predecessor—General Hurlbut having died while minister to Peru), one year's salary and legal allowances, after necessary deductions of salary paid.

The joint resolution, also approved July 28, 1882, gave to Mrs. Kilpatrick, widow of General Kilpatrick, who died while minister to Chile, one year's salary and legal allowances, after making proper salary deductions.

The joint resolution approved August 1, 1882, gave to Mrs. Garnet, widow of Rev. Henry Highland Garnet, who died while minister to Liberia, one year's salary and legal allowances, after deducting the amount received up to his death. Mr. Garnet had been in Liberia only a few weeks.

The deficiency bill approved March 3, 1883, gave to Mrs. Marsh, widow of George P. Marsh, esq., who died while minister to Italy, the balance of one year's salary, reckoned from June 23, 1882.

The act approved December 23, 1884, gave to Mrs. Jane Venable, widow of William E. Venable, esq., who died while minister to Guatemala, the sum of \$5,636.87, being the balance of one year's salary. In this case, Mr. Venable was commissioned March 14, 1857, and died at Guatemala August 22 of that year, before presenting his credentials. Consequently the action of Congress dates twenty-seven years after the minister's death.

The deficiency bill approved March 3, 1885, gave to Mrs. Wing, widow of E. Rumsey Wing, esq., who died while minister to Ecuador, and to Mrs. Hunt, widow of William H. Hunt, esq., who died while minister to Russia, a sum equal to six months' salary in each case. Mr. Wing was commissioned minister resident November 16, 1869. Shortly afterwards, however, Congress discontinued the mission to Ecuador.

Mrs. Lizzie Maynadier Phelps, widow of Capt. Seth Ledyard Phelps, late envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Peru, one year's salary as said minister, from June 25, 1888. (Act of August 3, 1886, United States Stat. L., vol. 24, p. 863.)

For payment to the heirs of Alexander Clark, late minister and consul-general to Liberia, the amount of one year's salary of said officer, \$4,000. (Act of July 28, 1892, United States Stat. L., vol. 27, p. 283.)

To be paid to Mrs. Sarah O. Hanna, widow of Bayless W. Hanna, late minister resident and consul-general, and also commissioned envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, to Argentina, for expenses and loss in bringing said Hanna from Buenos Ayres to the United States after he was attacked by a fatal disease while at his post and in the discharge of his official duties, which said attack rendered him entirely helpless and from which he died after reaching home, \$5,375. (Act of March 3, 1893, United States Stat. L., vol. 27, p. 647.)

To pay \$1,000 to Mrs. Celeste H. McCoy, of St. Paul, Minn., widow of the Hon. W. D. McCoy, late minister and consul-general of the United States to Liberia. (Act of March 2, 1895, United States Stat. L., vol. 28, p. 865.)

To pay to Mrs. Eliza Jaqua Gray, widow of Isaac P. Gray, late United States minister to Mexico, \$8,750. (Act of June 8, 1896, p. 268 of Pamphlet Laws, first session Fifty-fourth Congress, 1895-96.)

Without desiring to make any invidious distinction, your committee is of the opinion that no one of the cases above cited presents such tragic aspects as are offered in the case now under consideration. When Mr. Pollock was commissioned as a servant of his Government to the Republic of Salvador, he was in comfortable circumstances in the enjoyment of lucrative returns from his profession as a writer, and had a family circle unbroken. In less than one year from the time of his appointment he died of yellow fever and was buried in a foreign land; his wife and children were wrecked in health and courage, after passing through such dangers and tortures as few men are called upon to meet, and the stricken widow and her little ones were reduced to penury, which would have meant starvation but for the assistance bestowed by friends.

Consul Pollock, as is shown by the testimonials from the State Department, was an intelligent, courageous, and efficient officer of the Government. Your committee is of the opinion that it is the duty of the United States to afford to the widow of this patriotic man the means whereby she may be preserved from beggary or want, and whereby she may educate her children in a manner befitting their former station in life.

Your committee therefore recommend that the bill, as offered in the Senate, do pass.

Accompanying and made a part of this report, with the recommendation that they be printed as a part thereof, are the following papers:

1. Petition of Verona E. Pollock.
2. Affidavit of Hon. Lewis Baker.
3. Affidavit of Charles M. Thomas, commander, United States Navy.
4. Affidavit of Isabella L. Duncanson.
5. Affidavit of Verona E. Pollock.
6. Affidavit of Camillo H. Machinek, M. D.
7. Affidavit of Anton Coe, M. D.
8. Affidavit of G. W. Perry, M. D.
9. Copy of a letter from the United States consul, San Salvador, to the Secretary of State, dated July 27, 1896.
10. Copy of a letter from the Assistant Secretary of State to the United States consul, San Salvador, dated July 15, 1896.

11. Copy of a letter from Mrs. Alex. L. Pollock to the Secretary of State, dated September 9, 1895.
12. Copy of a letter from Lewis Baker to the Secretary of State, dated January 14, 1897.
13. Copy of a letter from Mr. J. F. Baker to Mr. Lewis Baker, dated January 14, 1897.
14. Copy of a letter from Mr. Otto Munchmeyer to Mr. J. F. Baker, dated January 2, 1897.
15. Copy of a letter from Mr. G. J. Dawson to Mr. J. F. Baker, dated January 2, 1897.
16. Letter from the Secretary of State to the Hon. John Sherman, dated January 11, 1897.
17. Letter from the Secretary of State to the Hon. John Sherman, dated February 1, 1897.
18. Letter from the Assistant Secretary of State to the Hon. Frank J. Cannon, dated February 4, 1897.

No. 1.—*Petition of Verona E. Pollock.*

To the Congress of the United States :

Your petitioner, Verona E. Pollock, respectfully shows that she is the widow of the late Alexander L. Pollock, who was commissioned United States consul to San Salvador, Republic of Salvador, Central America, September 23, 1893, and who proceeded to his post of duty and assumed the duties of said office on January 5, 1894; that on April 7, 1894, your petitioner, accompanied by her three children, joined Mr. Pollock at San Salvador, at his request, the Republic of Salvador being then peaceful and its Government apparently well established; the climatic conditions at that time were also good, there being no prevailing epidemics. That within one week after the arrival of your petitioner and her children at San Salvador there broke out one of the most terrible revolutions known to Central America, during the continuance of which the interests of the resident American citizens required Mr. Pollock's constant and unremitting attention, which he cheerfully and faithfully gave, in order that he might save both the lives and property of the citizens of his Government residing at that place.

The character of the service rendered by him will more fully appear from the accompanying statements under oath of Hon. Louis Baker, United States minister to Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, and the statement of Charles M. Thomas, commander, United States Navy, commanding U. S. S. *Bennington*, stationed at Salvador during the progress of the said revolution, and the arduous and fatiguing character of said duties left Mr. Pollock so debilitated physically and mentally as to render him susceptible to attacks of disease and to cause him to become an easy prey to the epidemic of yellow fever, which followed the revolution hereinbefore referred to, and which was undoubtedly due to the uncleanly and unsanitary methods of the people of that Republic, apparent at all times, but magnified during times of revolution when unburied bodies were left to pollute the streams from which drinking water was obtained and the garbage incident to a city was left ungathered and exposed to the atmosphere.

That Mr. Pollock was stricken with the prevailing epidemic, and after lingering for some days, suffering from privations due to lack of comfortable quarters and proper medical attendance, and the fact that he was quarantined on account of the contagious nature of his disease, died on September 7, 1894; that your petitioner remained at his bedside until his death, and being thus exposed to contagion also took the yellow fever, which caused her husband's death, and suffered therefrom, being removed from the country in a dying condition and without proper clothing or comforts, there being no one by her to attend to the getting of her clothing from her effects at her dwelling in the city, she having been, when taken sick, removed to Santa Tecla, a neighboring town, where she was joined by her children, who had been kept out of the city to avoid contagion; that her eldest son was taken with the fever, and when suffering therefrom was removed with the petitioner to the steamer en route for San Francisco; that the physical condition of petitioner, by reason of the mental agonies endured by her incident to the strain of her husband's agony and death, as well as by the fact of her being left alone in a strange country then in the throes of a revolution and swept by an epidemic, coupled with the effects upon her system of the disease from which she had suffered, was such that upon her landing at San Francisco she was prostrated and unable to attend to the slightest detail of business, and was compelled to rely upon her friends' assistance in that city; that this condition has so continued that she has been unable to follow any employment for the maintenance of herself and her children, and during most of the period since her return to this country in November, 1894, has been under the care

of physicians, who have treated her for nervous prostration and other ailments due to the intense strain to which she has been subjected, as well as to the poisonous effects upon her system of the yellow fever from which she suffered.

That owing to the conditions prevailing at San Salvador at the time of her removal therefrom, as well as to her physical condition at the time of such removal, she was unable to make any arrangements looking to the proper care of the household effects carried to that city by her when she joined her husband at his post of duty, and she has been unable to recover any portion thereof although aided in her efforts so to do by the Department of State, which Department has at all times endeavored to cooperate with her in the obtaining of said effects.

Your petitioner respectfully submits her affidavit accompanying this petition, detailing the circumstances surrounding the death of her husband and her experiences in the Republic of Salvador, and most respectfully prays that Senate bill 3510, introduced for her relief, may receive favorable consideration at your hands.

Your petitioner submits that the sum of \$17,000 provided therein will be no more than adequate to reimburse her for losses sustained by her, both of property as well as of physical health, which latter has precluded her, as hereinbefore stated, from making a livelihood and the support of herself and children. And your petitioner further states that subsequent to her return to the United States bills covering charges for medical attendance and other expenses incident to the last illness and burial of her deceased husband, as well as covering the expenses incurred by her during her illness in San Salvador, and amounting to a large sum, were sent to the Department of State, some portion of which she is advised was audited and paid.

Your petitioner further states that at the date of his appointment in the diplomatic service her deceased husband was suffering from a hernia incurred by him in the military service of the United States; that his death was caused by the strangulation of such hernia, induced by the strain due to the vomiting incident to yellow fever and which was particularly pronounced in his case; that her claim for pension as widow has been rejected by the Pension Office upon the ground that her said husband's death was due to yellow fever, and not in any manner due to hernia incurred by him while in the military service as aforesaid.

In conclusion your petitioner begs respectfully to cite the action of Congress as disclosed by Senate Report No. 238, Forty-ninth Congress, first session, and in which cases the wives of diplomatic officers dying in the Government service have been granted sums of money. Without reflecting upon any one of these cases, your petitioner, while believing her own possesses equities equally as strong, if not stronger, as shown by her petition, feels confident that her suffering and mental anguish during all these years, coupled with the loss of property which she sustained, entitle her to the relief of Congress for which she prays. Furthermore, your petitioner believes and states with confidence, that although many cases of consular officers dying abroad have unfortunately occurred, yet she doubts if any case has been identical with and as tragical as her own or surrounded by so many elements of distress and mental suffering.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *County of Washington*, ss :

Personally appeared before me on this 27th day of January, 1897, Verona E. Pollock who, being duly sworn, declares that she had read the foregoing petition, and that the statements therein contained are true to the best of her knowledge and belief.

VERONA E. POLLOCK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of January, A. D. 1897.

[SEAL.]

B. T. WEBSTER,
Notary Public District of Columbia.

No. 2.—*Affidavit of Hon. Lewis Baker.*

I was not in Salvador during the last illness of the late Alexander L. Pollock, the United States consul to that country, but I am conversant with the circumstances attending his sickness and his death.

The period of Mr. Pollock's service as consul was a peculiarly trying one in that country. A fierce revolution broke out in one of the northern provinces and rapidly spread over the principal cities and towns until the whole State was ablaze. The contest was savagely waged on both sides and the interests of Americans and other foreigners were disregarded.

This forced upon Mr. Pollock duties of more than ordinary gravity. To add to the delicacy of his situation, a number of the chief military officers of the defeated party sought and found asylum on board of a United States naval vessel then lying at La Libertad. These men were demanded for sacrifice by the successful party, which demand could not be complied with. For a time the Government was disposed to

retaliate upon the American citizens then engaged in business in that country, and only for the presence of a clear-headed, adroit, able, and persevering officer of this country, American citizens would, in a number of instances, have suffered seriously in both their persons and property.

Following the war came pestilence in an epidemic of yellow fever. This came at the time the duties above mentioned were pressing upon Consul Pollock.

Being an invalid from a wound received while in the service of his country prior to his appointment to Salvador, and still suffering from the effects thereof, he was urged by his friends in that country to apply for a leave of absence in order to recruit his shattered health. Declining this, he was urged to retire to a more salubrious locality in the mountains, rather than take the risks of the yellow fever; but Mr. Pollock was too good a soldier, too ardently devoted to the interests of fellow-countrymen, to act upon this advice. He literally sacrificed his own life rather than give even a color to an appearance of neglecting any of his duties.

Being familiar with the circumstances of the situation, I do not hesitate to express the opinion, maturely arrived at, that Mr. Pollock's life would have been saved to his family and country if he had taken a vacation at the time his physician and friends urged this duty upon him.

LEWIS BAKER.

On this 6th day of November, A. D. 1896, personally appeared before me Lewis Baker, United States minister to Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Salvador, personally known to me to be the party represented, and made oath in due form of law to the truth of the foregoing statement subscribed by him in my presence.

[SEAL.]

GEO. R. MARBLE, *Notary Public*.

No. 3.—*Affidavit of Charles M. Thomas.*

UNITED STATES NAVAL HOME,
Philadelphia, Pa., July 1, 1896.

To all whom it may concern:

This is to certify that during the period of my command of the U. S. S. *Bennington* I was ordered by the honorable Secretary of the Navy to proceed from the United States navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal., in the early part of May, 1894, to La Libertad, Salvador, for the purpose of protecting American interests during the progress of the revolution against the Ezeta Government.

The *Bennington* arrived off La Libertad about the middle of May and remained until July 25, a period of sixty-five days, and during this exciting time the Ezeta Government was overthrown, the President, Carlos Ezeta, fled to Panama in a German merchant steamer, and his brother, Antonio Ezeta, the general commanding the defeated army, with several of his officers, became refugees upon the vessel I had the honor to command.

The United States minister, Mr. Baker, accredited to Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, was at his central post, Managua, Nicaragua, so the interests of American citizens in Salvador were exclusively in the hands of Mr. Alexander L. Pollock, the United States consul at San Salvador, the capital of the country.

My official duties brought me into close and confidential relations with Mr. Pollock, and it gives me pleasure to bear witness to the excellent diplomacy exhibited by him, the tact with which he handled a most excitable people during a most trying period, and his great success in guarding the interests of all American citizens resident in Salvador.

Mr. Pollock was held in high esteem by the officials of the overthrown Ezeta Government and by the successful Gutierrez Government, and commanded the respect of both factions.

The consul and myself worked together in perfect harmony, and his dignity of character, high order of intelligence, and faithful discharge of duty won the warmest admiration of myself and the officers under my command.

The large number of unburied dead fallen upon the field of battle in the vicinity of San Salvador undoubtedly aggravated the bad sanitary condition of the country, and, in the opinion of the best medical authorities, the surgeon of the *Bennington* included, was the direct cause of an epidemic of yellow fever to which Mr. Pollock fell a victim, literally dying at the post of duty.

Just previous to the departure of the *Bennington* from La Libertad a low type of malarial fever developed on board, becoming epidemic, and one case was pronounced to be yellow fever. The surgeon of the ship was sick with the fever and was unable to attend to duty.

During this critical period Mr. Pollock was untiring in his efforts to procure medical aid, and succeeded in obtaining an order from the Secretary of War of the successful revolutionary Government detailing a native surgeon to visit the sick on board

my ship, and later succeeded in sending to our aid a most competent American physician from San Salvador.

CHAS. M. THOMAS,
Commander, U. S. N.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 1st day of June, A. D. 1896.

[SEAL.]

C. W. CROASDILL, *Notary Public.*

No. 4.—*Affidavit of Isabella L. Dunkinson.*

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ss:

On this 28th day of May, A. D. 1896, personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for the District of Columbia aforesaid, Isabella L. Dunkinson, who is personally known to me, and whose statements are entitled to faith and credit, and who being by me duly sworn, according to law, declares as follows:

I knew Mrs. Pollock and her late husband, Alexander L. Pollock, in Central America for several months, and spent some time with them at the consulate, afterwards went with her and the English consul's wife to the finca (coffee plantation) of Don Manuel Prieto, where Mr. Pollock had sent his family to escape prevailing plague. We were at the finca three weeks before Mr. Pollock's sickness during which time he came up Saturday evenings and returned Monday mornings following.

I have often heard him cautioned of the danger he was in, staying as he did in San Salvador, but he could not be persuaded to leave his post nor take one hour's rest, as he claimed that it would jeopardize the lives of Americans, and important questions between the two countries required his constant attention, and he could not leave without sacrificing the lives of others.

During our stay at the finca was the only peaceful time we saw in nine months.

On his last visit to his family at the finca, Mr. Pollock seemed loath to leave on Monday morning, but neither his wife nor any of us could persuade him to stay, even a single day.

I heard him request his wife to come into San Salvador on the following Wednesday, and she tried to persuade him to come out there instead, and it was agreed that in case he could not come, would send word to her.

I have been credibly informed that he was taken down with yellow fever, one hour after he left, and begged that his wife be sent for immediately, notwithstanding this appeal, she did not receive the information until Wednesday morning, when she sent one of the boys to town for the message, and during this time she was within an hour's ride, but on account of the negligence of the people there, she was not notified.

Mrs. Pollock received word about 10 o'clock and left five minutes later on a mule, to go to her husband.

She left me \$4. and requested me to take care of her children for her, saying that she would send more money.

As no money came, I sent down and found that she could not send anything, being in quarantine, but that she had called across the street to a man she knew, to borrow certain money and take it to her children, but he had gone on a drunken spree with the money, while Mrs. Pollock supposed that they had gotten it.

For nearly two months we were entirely out of food, and lived for a time on the seed of a certain plant which we cooked.

During this time we were in a deplorable condition, myself and three children left alone among savage Indians, whose language we did not even know. We were entirely at their mercy; not even lock, bolt, or bar to any door or window.

During the tropical rains it was as much as one's life was worth to venture out on the mountains, for fear of being washed over the cliffs.

The eighth day after Mrs. Pollock left me, having heard nothing from her, I sent Channing into the city for news and to get some money. On his return he told me that he saw his mother standing in the door, and she screamed to him in terror to turn back; that his father was dying of yellow fever and that he must not expose himself and the others to it.

Mr. Pollock died the following day, and was buried the same day.

The morning of the day he died I sent the boys into the nearest town, and on their return they told me that the town was draped in mourning for some minister, but they did not know that it was for their father, as it afterwards proved to be.

It was impossible for us to get aid now from any source, and we were left entirely at the mercy of the Indians, by whom we were surrounded.

We were not informed of Mr. Pollock's death until four or five days after the funeral, when a drunken man came up with that information and told us that Mrs. Pollock was down with the fever and not expected to live.

The weeks of suspense that followed during her terrible illness can hardly be imagined. Left alone with three children, whose father had just died, and the

mother dying, without food, without anyone to lend a helping hand, and in constant fear of our lives.

Channing and myself were taken with some kind of fever, and were three weeks without any medical treatment whatever. An old Indian used to come with berries and say prayers over them for us.

During this time the smaller boy and girl kept house, until they also came down with the fever, and we gave up in despair.

Then followed a period of unconsciousness, from which I was awakened or roused one afternoon about 4 o'clock by Mrs. Campbell, who told me that she thought she would never arouse us. We seemed to have no sense, and could not stand on our feet. She brought some little food, and after giving us some nourishment, told me that Mrs. Pollock was dying. This was overheard by the boys, and the suspense was terrible.

A short time after this a letter was received stating that Mrs. Pollock had been moved out of the scene of the dying to Santa Tecla, as a last hope for her recovery, and to go at once to her with the children.

After a very rough trip, joined her that night, and her own children passed her by without recognizing her, she was so changed by her terrible illness, having been at death's door for two months, and forbidden to lift her hand.

She talked a great deal with me, and insisted that it did her no harm, but it brought on a relapse, and for one day and night it took the combined efforts of several women, four doctors, and myself to keep her alive. The following morning at daybreak the physician in charge ordered her to be moved at 6 o'clock to the steamer, and that delay meant death.

She had burned many things of value, and left behind her valuable works of art, clothing, and four weeks' washing wet in the tubs, carrying with her only the clothes she had on, and without hat or wrap.

She was lifted out of bed and put in a wagon, on pillows, and drawn by six mules, with two oxen behind to prevent slipping over the cliffs, and was carried 10 miles over the rough roads of the Andes Mountains.

We arrived at La Saba, where we took train for Sonsonati, the hottest and dirtiest place on earth. She was taken from the train in a blinding rain and carried three blocks to the hotel, where she fainted dead away, was put to bed, clothing dried, and after she was made comfortable went to see about steamer, which was reported five days late. As the doctor had stated that her only chance was to get the sea air, it was a serious question whether she could possibly be kept alive until the steamer arrived.

The next day Mrs. Pollock's oldest son, Channing, was taken down with fever and was very ill; could get no doctor in the place, and had to send to the next town for them. We were in constant fear of report getting out that he had yellow fever, as we would have been put out in the street without a shelter of any kind.

Under the excitement Mrs. Pollock left her bed, and I have seen her tear a cloth into strips and sew them together again and again. She was taking heart medicine every hour, and any exertion meant death to her.

On the day that the steamer arrived sent to secure berths, but the doctor said that it meant death to the boy to move him, and it was death to the mother to remain.

We should have taken the train that left at 10 o'clock, but could not decide what to do. The train at 1 o'clock was our last chance, and up to ten minutes of the time the doctor had not consented.

Mrs. Pollock and the consular agent made up their minds that it was best to go, and they were both dragged to the boat.

The captain of the steamer knew Mrs. Pollock, and threw up his hands when she was taken aboard, as he thought her dead, and told her that her death had been reported all over the United States two months before.

We had to take the boat going south to Corinto, to avoid the quarantine of Guatemala, and take boat there for San Francisco.

I met friends on the boat, who persuaded me to go with them to New York, and I left Mrs. Pollock in care of Americans at Corinto, and continued my trip on the same boat.

ISABELLA L. DUNKINSON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me the date aforesaid, and I certify that the foregoing statements were typewritten by me from the oral statements of the affiant.

[SEAL.]

GEO. R. MARBLE, *Notary Public*.

No. 5.—*Affidavit of Verona E. Pollock.*

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ss:

On this 25th day of May, A. D. 1896, personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for the District of Columbia aforesaid, Verona E. Pollock, personally well

known to me to be reputable, and whose statements are entitled to full faith and credit, and who, being by me duly sworn according to law, declares as follows:

That I am the widow of the late Alexander L. Pollock, who was commissioned United States consul to San Salvador, Republic of Salvador, Central America, September 23, 1893, from Utah.

Mr. Pollock arrived at his post December 25, 1893, and assumed the duties of his position January 5, 1894.

I was in Washington before Mr. Pollock received his commission, and while at the Department of State was assured by Secretary Gresham and Assistant Secretary Quincy that San Salvador was a desirable place, and was free from yellow fever, and at that time I told them that if such was not the case that the President's salary would not tempt us to go there, as Mr. Pollock was a great sufferer from an incurable wound and could not afford to take the chances, and our family of children could not be exposed to any such danger.

They assured me that the climate was healthful and beautiful, and Mr. Quincy was especially anxious for Mr. Pollock to go there, as he knew from his indorsers and indorsements that he was a man of great capabilities, and the duties at Salvador called for a diplomat.

Mr. Pollock was greatly disappointed on arriving at his post, but as it seemed healthful and peaceful at that time he sent for his family, and we joined him there April 7, 1894.

On entering the country I quickly saw that it was no place for white women and children. We had a colony of about fifty Americans, and about five of these were women.

My children had to be kept from school. In the university they would give 20 lashes each to 400 scholars whenever the president deemed it necessary; there was literally no morality in the country, the people were treacherous and semicivilized, and while Salvador was beautiful to look at, there was no pleasure, no food for the mind, and the living expenses were so exorbitant as to keep even the necessities of life from us.

This country is infested with every hideous reptile and insect abiding indoors and out.

We were there during the season of tropical rains, when the town was flooded twelve out of every twenty-four hours.

We lived over wet ground, the water running over the floors of the houses. A pasteboard box left on the floor one hour would leave a mildewed spot, and clothing, not exposed to the sun's rays, would rot in a few days. It can well be imagined what this condition, with the intense heat of the country, would do in accomplishing the breaking down of the constitution, to say nothing of frequent earthquakes and as frequent revolutions and the pestilence of plagues, etc.

In Central America, on account of the trying climate, it is impossible for even the natives to do much work.

Mr. Pollock's duties were comparatively light until the beginning of the revolution. I had hardly been there one week when one of the most bloody revolutions that Central America has ever known was upon us. During this time Mr. Pollock overworked himself and laid himself open to any illness, unless he had rest, which was impossible under existing conditions.

We had made up our minds to leave San Salvador as soon as peace was restored, and either get a change of station or he would resign. It was impossible to make a change during the revolution, as the lives of our fellow-men depended upon his presence, and the negotiations between the two countries kept him constantly at work.

The first report of the revolution came on Sunday morning the 29th of April, when a lot of Americans informed us that the Vice-President had been murdered, and that the neighboring town of Santa Ana had been stormed to the ground.

Men and boys were dragged from their homes, and sent to the front, leaving San Salvador with only women to carry on business, and as the men fell, the President opened the doors of the penitentiary and liberated the convicts to strengthen the Army.

Soldiers were maltreated and did not fight for love of country; to keep them from deserting they were chained as they passed through the town, and when liberated would flee at first opportunity and become fierce demons, burning helpless women and children. If an Indian had a grievance, he took the time of the revolution to get even. Our only protection was our flag, and that was very little protection when drunken Indians would march into the town by thousands. When they came all liquors had to be poured into the street to insure safety.

We passed through several months of this excitement not knowing what might happen, and during this time if we went to the door we were liable to be shot. Mr. Pollock, who had to be out, would be forced to prostrate himself on the ground to escape bullets.

Wealthy natives were dragged from their homes by the police, and forced to put up fabulous sums, presumably for war purposes, and if they refused they were tortured until they consented.

Mr. Pollock has been offered small fortunes by these people for an asylum, but had to refuse to give it.

Foreigners who took part in the war at the overthrow of the government were accused of heinous crimes of which they were not guilty, and it took the best efforts of the consul to save their lives.

The U. S. war ship *Bennington* landed in June at La Libertad, 30 miles from San Salvador, and protected American interests around her. We felt safer on account of her presence in Salvadorian waters, although there was no way she could have offered protection to the consulate, if the worse came, and we could not stand the march to her through bullets and no railroad.

There was a railroad to Acajutla, on which a train with 800 men aboard was wrecked and the President and staff only escaped.

Not only the nervous strain of what is here related, but Mr. Pollock's unceasing work and sympathy for his fellow-men was constantly breaking down his health and preparing him for what was to follow.

In the street in San Salvador I have seen a child 9 years old hashed to pieces because it called, "Viva" for the overthrown president.

At night, when all was still, have often seen a poor man taken by with black cap on—which told only too plainly its tale of death—to be shot for some imaginary crime. If a man was dragged from his bed at night his family dared not inquire what had become of him. Mr. Pollock's reports show the details of the revolution and the characters of the leaders of the Government, especially the Vice-President, who murdered men for the sake of seeing the blood flow. The people are far worse than the American Indians, on account of their Spanish blood and being crazed by excessive drinking.

After the revolution the holy holidays came, and the filth that had accumulated for months could not be removed, as nothing could prevent the celebration, and thousands of dollars were spent in revelry. During this time the uncovered dead lay on the battlefields, and the mass of decay mingled with the very water we drank, and that, with the dirt of the city, caused smallpox, yellow fever, and other fatal diseases not known here.

When the plague came we were terrified with fright, and heard men express themselves that they could run from the revolution but could not from plague.

American tramps, who were without shelter, came to the consulate, and with tears in their eyes begged for assistance.

The American people who could afford it fled to the heights to escape plague, but there was no escape for us. I exposed myself and children by stumbling upon a man in my husband's office, whose tongue was hanging out with fever. Mr. Pollock took this man to the hospital, where he died three days later.

Having to run great risk, I remained six weeks, collecting money for our suffering poor, while Mr. Pollock stuck faithfully to his post, ministering to the wants of his fellow-men and straightening out the complications that had arisen during the revolution.

During this time the doctors begged him to flee, as his own condition would not warrant his remaining.

After the plague was over I begged him to get leave and go with me to the United States, if only for the sea trip, as he was fatigued, and when he had partly promised to do so the Americans begged him not to desert them while so much was at stake, and he refused to go, but finally consented, and the leave was asked for.

I went with my children to a finca (coffee plantation) to prepare for the trip and recuperate, and took with me the English consul's wife and an American woman, who had been staying with me in San Salvador.

Although the plague seemed dead, there must have been some germs left in the atmosphere, for three weeks after this Mr. Pollock, in his weak and nervous state, contracted the fever, which was the beginning of the second epidemic, which was much more violent than the first, and only for the vultures and tropical rains—nature's own remedies—the filth of the country would have swept it with the disease.

Mr. Pollock was sick three days before I was notified, and I only got the information then by sending my son into the town to him, and on his return he brought me the information, together with some telegrams that Mr. Pollock had sent me when he was first taken sick, but owing to negligence they had not been forwarded.

I immediately mounted a mule and left for his bedside, leaving my children behind in care of the American woman who went out with me—the English consul's wife had previously left our home.

I found Mr. Pollock bright, although he was suffering greatly; he bitterly condemned the people for not delivering the messages to me. The doctors did all in their power, but the men who were taken up off the street to nurse him had neglected

their duties fearfully; on this, the third day of his illness, I found him, with his clothes on, on a cot, without sheets or pillowcases. I did everything in my power to make him as comfortable as possible, and on the sixth day he, not realizing his condition, wanted to dress and attend the President's reception, on the independence of Salvador, as he felt that it was his duty to be there. We kept him in ignorance of the fact that he was a victim of yellow fever, fearing death from fright.

He passed the crisis of the disease that night, but died on the following Monday, September 17, 1894, on account of complications from strangulated hernia having set in, on the very day that the steamer arrived that was to take his family on the promised trip home.

His death was a horrible one, and I can not but feel that he sacrificed his life for his country, while at his post of duty, and a shot on the field of battle would have been far easier for him, for his children, and for me.

His body turned black immediately, and the attendants could only wrap it in a sheet for burial, and told me to thank God that someone would even do that.

For two hours before he died the black blood gushed from his mouth, and, although in quarantine, the Americans rushed in to soothe his last moments, and I have them to thank that he was not dragged from his cot and quicklived in the ditch, for the watch that patrolled the house during those fearful hours did not mind my feelings, when they inquired every few minutes if he was dead, to accomplish this.

These very people did nothing to suppress the disease, and carried the filth on their bodies and clothing that caused it.

The Spanish doctors who came to that deathbed went to a public ball that same night without even changing their clothes or washing their hands, and danced with women.

A few of the people took a common casket and lined it with zink, that they might hermetically seal it, and into this zink his remains were laid.

After the funeral a great destruction of bedding, clothing, etc., followed to keep down contagion.

This was the first house quarantined, and it was only after the most persistent efforts of Dr. Stubbett, who attended my husband, that any quarantine at all was established.

After the funeral I went as a guest to the English consulate, where I tried to pack the little keepsakes left me, look over my husband's papers, write home to friends, and prepare myself for the death that was to come in all probability.

I was not afraid of the disease, but knew that I had exposed myself to the poison most fatal, and felt that it would be cowardly not to be prepared when it came.

On the fifth day I succumbed to all the agonies of yellow fever and moaned piteously one whole day before medical attendance could be secured. On the third day of my illness the doctors gave me up, but I realized that I had three children in that land, unprotected, and made a hard fight for life.

The English consul's wife, who had been the only friend who had not fled from my bedside, was sent from me.

The plague became so violent that the death carts were going to and fro and people were dragged from their homes, to die on the way to the pesthouses, and those who so bravely stood by my husband in terror deserted me.

The doctors, while giving me the care of physicians, were too busy with the dying to see that their orders were obeyed, and a man whose life my husband had saved, in gratitude took care of me.

I probably would not have recovered had not this man, in gratitude, come to my bedside and saw that I was not neglected. An ignorant Indian maiden was the only woman around me for six weeks, and the whole of my nursing was done by this man and two young medical students, and I was too low to know that a woman's hand was needed.

It is needless for me to describe the horrors of one of the most fearful diseases on record, and will only tell you that for six weeks I lay on a cot, with no other furniture save a chair which stood by my bed for the medicines; in agonizing pain, fearful delirium, and a stomach that threw off the medicines and nourishment every few minutes when given, like coals of fire. I owe my life to burning the back, and for months could not lay my hand over the wounds.

I passed the crisis of the disease on the seventh day, but suffered from fatal relapses. At last I was able to sit by the open window and watch the English consul bring his people into my room to die—those who had been dragged from their homes, and whom he could not see sent to the pesthouse to breathe their last.

At this juncture the American vice-consul came to me and told me that he would not permit me to remain longer amid such scenes, and in five minutes I was taken to a cab and put on a train and sent to Santa Tecla, the next town, where the children joined me, accompanied by the American woman.

The trip proved too much for me, and the following day it took the combined efforts of four doctors to keep me breathing.

The following morning I was ordered to be moved to the steamer, as the sea air was the only chance of saving my life and that delay meant death.

I was put into a wagon, on pillows, and carried a considerable distance over the rough mountain roads to La Saba, where I was put on board a train for Sonsonati; there I was to take the steamer. When I arrived at this place I was carried several squares through a heavy rain, and on arriving at the hotel I lost consciousness. I remember being told that the steamer was several days late, after I regained consciousness; but on the next day, when my oldest boy, Channing, was taken with the fever, thought that I could not possibly stand it—seemed as if I would lose my reason.

The boy was very ill, and when the steamer arrived the doctors said that it would kill the boy to move him.

At first I could not decide what was best to do, but finally decided that our best chance was to make the move, and we were taken by train to the steamer.

The captain of the steamer, whom I knew, threw up his hands as I was being taken aboard, and told me that he never expected to see me alive, that my death was reported in the United States two months before.

The steamer was bound south to Corinto, where it became necessary to go, to avoid the quarantine that had been declared by Guatemala on the north.

We stayed at Corinto eight days waiting for the steamer that was to take us to San Francisco, but during our stay there we were not able to sleep at all at night on account of the scorpions, lizards, rats, and other reptiles, with which the place was overrun.

On the steamer I received every attention, but did not feel any improvement for two weeks, until we reached cold air.

At the time of Mr. Pollock's illness, and mine, my children were left at the coffee plantation, with an American woman, who was the only white person near them. They were exposed to danger among semicivilized people far from assistance of any kind. I was unable to send them money, except by parties not reliable, and have been credibly informed, that they suffered for lack of food and medical attendance, and were ill from their sufferings and anxiety.

I arrived in San Francisco November 15, 1894, and was unable to even write a letter. Friends cared for me like a baby; bought clothing for me, and attended to my business matters.

I left San Francisco on the 1st day of December and rested in Salt Lake City until early in January, when I received a telegram calling me to Kansas, announcing the sudden death of my mother, who had succumbed to the shock of my coming home, after she had supposed me dead so long.

In Salt Lake City and Omaha I was suffering from yellow fever poison and also was compelled to consult physicians on my arrival in Washington in 1895; and to the present writing have been compelled to be constantly in the doctor's care, since that eventful illness in 1894, and with all other ailments, my brain has, until recently, been unfitted for all work; even now the position I am in, caused by circumstances before related, is such as to be considered serious by capable physicians.

Mr. Pollock always provided the very best for his family, but at his death the money he left me was not sufficient for me and mine to long live on, and I am compelled not only to support myself but to educate and care for three children, and I have no one to aid me in this undertaking. I therefore have not only lost a husband and protector, and my children a father, but all means of support.

I have during these twenty months, since my husband died, made every effort to secure work of any kind and have been refused, and am to-day without any means of making a livelihood, without funds, the worry of which, on the top of what I have suffered, unfits me for my daily life.

VERONA E. POLLOCK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of May, A. D. 1896, and I certify that the foregoing statements were dictated to, and typewritten by, me in the city of Washington, D. C.

[SEAL.]

GEO. R. MARBLE, Notary Public.

No. 6.—*Affidavit of Camillo H. Machinek.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 5, 1897.

Mrs. Verona E. Pollock has been under my professional care since March 1, 1895, at different times. Mrs. Pollock suffered from the effects of yellow fever, and even to this day is not entirely free from it, inasmuch as she has to undergo treatment for the nervous condition which was induced by the yellow fever partly, and partly by the intense mental strain she sustained while at San Salvador. She was incapacitated for any kind of work, mental or physical, for two years following her return from

San Salvador, and it is my belief that Mrs. Pollock will never be absolutely and entirely well again on account of her experience at that place.

CAMILLO H. MACHINEK, M. D.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

No. 7.—*Affidavit of Anton Coe, M. D.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 2, 1897.

I hereby certify that after several examinations as to the present physical condition of Mrs. V. E. Pollock, I am warranted in pronouncing her as being far from a state of good health. She is at the present time suffering from mental worry producing nerve strain, due, as I believe, to the poisonous effect of the yellow fever contracted at her husband's post of duty. Mrs. Pollock is also suffering from conditions I can not here name, which are aggravated if not caused by the said yellow fever, all of which are liable to produce nervous prostration, unless the utmost precaution is taken. I have advised complete rest from work, and under no condition apply herself to study or mental work, as it will surely break her down.

Respectfully,

ANTON COE, M. D.

No. 8.—*Affidavit of G. W. Perry, M. D.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1897.

I have been personally acquainted with Mrs. Verona L. Pollock, widow of Consul Alexander L. Pollock at San Salvador, for more than one year. During this period I have been frequently called to treat her professionally. I have always found her suffering from great nervousness and debility, which, in my opinion, is the direct result of anxiety and distress at the sickness and death of her husband in a foreign country, as well as her own illness contracted while there attending him. She has been unable to earn sufficient means to support herself and family of three children by reason of said infirmities. I have no interest whatever in any claim she may make for pension.

G. W. PERRY, M. D.

Subscribed and sworn before me this 30th day of January, 1897.

[SEAL.]

FRANCIS H. GOODALL,
Notary Public.

No. 9.—*Copy of letter from the United States Consul at San Salvador.*

No. 15.]

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
San Salvador, July 27, 1895.

SIR: In answer to dispatch No. 11, July 5, I beg to say that in compliance with request of Mrs. A. L. Pollock, I immediately upon arrival obtained the certificates of Drs. J. E. Stubbett and Gastiozora, showing the actual cause of the death of Mr. Pollock. I gave these to Mr. Dawson, our vice-consul, who was at that time going to the States, and he promised me he would deliver them to Mrs. Pollock. He tells me now that he did not call on Mrs. Pollock, but that he has mailed her the two documents. In regard to the personal property which Mrs. Pollock left with Mr. Dawson, all I can find out about it is that Mr. Dawson has two large boxes marked for Mrs. Pollock, which he says he will send to her address as soon as the charges for freight and the boxing of the articles are paid him.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

FREDERICK MUNCHMEYER,
United States Consul.

HON. ALVEY A. ADEE,
Acting Secretary, Washington, D. C.

No. 10.—*Copy of letter from Assistant Secretary of State.*

No. 20.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 15, 1896.

SIR: Referring to your dispatch No. 15, of July 27, 1895, you are informed that Mrs. Pollock has just called at the Department to make inquiries regarding her personal property left with Mr. Dawson, the vice-consul.

You will please report the amount which Mr. Dawson claims for boxing the articles. Mrs. Pollock is of the opinion that Mr. Cooper, consular agent at La Libertad,

will pay these charges and take possession of the property. If so, you will see that the boxes are delivered to Mr. Cooper at once. In case the steamship line for San Francisco will convey the goods to that port without charge, Mrs. Pollock desires them sent there; otherwise she wishes Mr. Cooper to communicate with her and inform her of the cost of sending the boxes to New York, and she will make arrangements to pay the charges.

The Department desires that this matter shall be attended to at once and be finally settled.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. W. ROCKHILL,
Assistant Secretary.

OTTO MUNCHMEYER, Esq.,
Consul of the United States, San Salvador.

No. 11.—*Copy of letter from Mrs. Alex. L. Pollock.*

THE GARFIELD,
Washington, D. C., September 9, 1895.

MY DEAR SIR: Your kind favor with inclosed copy of a dispatch from the consul at Salvador was duly received. The papers referred to were sent me a few weeks ago from the State Department. Mr. Dawson, the vice-consul at San Salvador, was here in Washington and called on Mr. Uhl, who requested that he call and see me. Mr. Dawson did not do so, nor did he give these important documents intrusted to him by Mr. Munchmeyer to Mr. Uhl, or mail them to me here, but carried them back with him to Central America, mailing them from there to the State Department, causing months of delay.

When I left Salvador I was too ill to attend to any business matter, and Mr. Dawson promised to send my personal property and the certificates of Mr. Pollock's death on the next steamer. After ten months I received these proofs, but some clothing and valuable paintings are as yet in Salvador. The climate is such there as to damage these goods, so they may be of no use to me. Mr. Dawson informs the consul that when I pay for the shipment and packing he will forward the boxes to me. I told both the consul and Mr. Dawson that all my freight would be sent free of charge over the Pacific Mail Steamship Line from any port in Salvador to San Francisco, where friends would take charge of it. The packing can be only a few dollars and I can not possibly know what amount to send them; but is it necessary that Mr. Dawson wait a year before he gives me his reason for not sending me my things? If the representatives of our Government at Salvador can not show a small courtesy to the widow of the late consul, I beg that the State Department will instruct the consul to ship the boxes that I may pay charges here.

I most heartily thank you for your kindness, and regret that I have had to trouble you.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. ALEX. L. POLLOCK.

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE,
Washington, D. C.

No. 12.—*Copy of letter from Lewis Baker.*

No. 750.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Managua, Nicaragua, January 14, 1897.

SIR: I take the liberty of sending you several inclosures concerning the property of Mrs. Pollock, widow of the late United States consul at San Salvador.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

LEWIS BAKER.

Hon. RICHARD OLNEY,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

No. 13.—*Copy of letter from Mr. J. F. Baker.*

[Inclosure 1.]

Mr. J. F. Baker to Mr. Lewis Baker.

Mr. LEWIS BAKER, *United States Minister.*

SIR: In connection with Department dispatch No. 20 of June 15, addressed to Consul Munchmeyer, San Salvador, and not answered by him, according to his

statement, and the files of his consulate verify the same, I have to state that I made diligent inquiry and industrious search for the property of Mrs. Pollock, as indicated in the Department's dispatch, as well as for other articles mentioned in her letter to this legation of a recent date. My investigations were not rewarded with a satisfactory result. The Department dispatch instructed Consul Munchmeyer to send the Pollock property to the United States, and says, "You will please report the amount which Mr. Dawson claims for boxing the articles." Further the dispatch says: "The Department desires that this matter be attended to at once and finally settled."

I called upon Mr. Dawson and inquired as to the location of the Pollock property left in his charge. He made a lengthy explanation of his connection with it and upon my request that he place the substance of his conversation in writing, he handed me the inclosed signed statement. After talking with Consul Munchmeyer upon the subject, I prepared and read to him the substance of his remarks, which he signed. I hand you herewith a copy of the same.

It appears that the property of Mrs. Pollock has been lost, and there does not seem to be any probability of recovering it.

Consul Otto Munchmeyer claims that he made the following statement in his letter No. 5, addressed to Lewis Baker, United States minister, under date of March 30, 1896, in reply to inquiries from this legation. This letter was never received at this legation, as the files of the office show. I quote as follows:

"As to the personal effects of Mrs. A. L. Pollock, Mr. William Dawson made the statement that he had delivered the two boxes over to the former consul, Frederick Munchmeyer; they were not to be found among the consul's effects, and on making inquiries at the shipping companies of the ports of this Republic if such boxes had been shipped to the States, the answers were, "We have no records that such packages passed through our hands." Mr. Dawson has no receipt to show that he has turned over the boxes to Frederick Munchmeyer. Would you kindly instruct me if the value of said boxes will justify legal proceeding against Mr. Dawson to recover them."

I am, sir,

JOHN F. BAKER.

MANAGUA, January 14, 1897.

No. 14.—Copy of letter from Mr. Otto Munchmeyer.

[Inclosure 2.]

Mr. Otto Munchmeyer to Mr. J. F. Baker.

MR. JOHN F. BAKER,
Secretary United States Legation.

SIR: In reference to your inquiries concerning the property of Mrs. Pollock, which was left by her in charge of G. J. Dawson, at that time United States vice-consul, I have to say that I have made an effort to discover the whereabouts of the property in order to send it to her. Mr. Dawson claimed that he turned the property over to Mr. Frederick Munchmeyer when the latter assumed the duties of the consulate, but he has not been able to show any receipt from Mr. F. Munchmeyer, or other evidence of having done so. All of the property has mysteriously disappeared and I see no hope of recovering it.

I am, sir, etc.,

OTTO MUNCHMEYER,
United States Consul.

SAN SALVADOR, January 2, 1897.

No. 15.—Copy of letter from Mr. G. J. Dawson.

[Inclosure 3.]

Mr. G. J. Dawson to Mr. J. F. Baker.

MR. JOHN F. BAKER,
Secretary United States Legation.

SIR: In reference to the pictures and other goods which Mrs. Pollock left at the house of the British consul, Mr. Campbell, shortly after the death of her husband and prior to her departure for the United States, I beg to state that, at her request, I bought two large empty boxes, which I sent to Mr. Campbell's with my carpenter to pack said goods and when that was done I had them brought over to the consulate, then at my residence.

Before I had any opportunity of sending the boxes to port for shipment Mr. F. Munchmeyer arrived in the country as consul, and being unable to find in town a suitable house for his office and family I agreed to rent him one-half of the house, which he occupied for several months.

When he took possession of the consulate I delivered over to him the boxes of Mrs. Pollock as part of the goods of the consulate, instructing him to ship them at his earliest convenience. In June, 1895, I left for the United States on business and the boxes were still in his possession. When I returned about the middle of August I found the boxes where I had last seen them. Shortly after my arrival Mr. Munchmeyer left my house taking with him to his new home Mrs. Pollock's boxes as well as my furniture, which I continued to rent to him.

I never saw Mr. Munchmeyer after he left, at his new house, and I don't remember having spoken to him about the aforesaid boxes. What became of them I am quite unable to say. I do not know whether he shipped them or what he did with them. When he died I went to the house where he had lived last to recover my furniture and to take charge of the furniture and goods of the consulate. Mrs. Pollock's boxes were no longer there, and, notwithstanding my efforts in that direction, it has been impossible for me to obtain any trace whatever, either of the cases or of their contents.

I am, sir, etc.,

G. J. DAWSON.

SAN SALVADOR, *January 2, 1897.*

No. 16.—*Letter from the Secretary of State to Hon. John Sherman.*

[From Senate Report No. 238, first session Forty-ninth Congress.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 11, 1886.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, accompanied by a copy of Senate resolution No. 16, Forty-ninth Congress, first session, for the relief of Mrs. Lizzie Maynadier Phelps, widow of Seth Ledyard Phelps, late envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Peru.

Captain Phelps died at Lima June 24, 1885. He was commissioned June 18, 1883, as such minister. His salary has been adjusted up to the date of his death.

While upon the subject of the Senate's resolution, I beg to submit for the consideration of your committee a few observations in connection therewith, without, however, being understood as intending in any manner to influence the committee's report or the Senate's later action.

I find, upon an inspection of the Department records covering the period of Captain Phelps's official services, that they had been discharged with a due regard to the honor, dignity, and interest of the Government, and with commendable fidelity and ability. Besides his duties at his post, which, during the late revolutionary operations of the contending factions in Peru, were exceedingly onerous and difficult, it appears that my immediate predecessor, relying upon the tact and judgment of Captain Phelps, ordered him from Lima on a temporary and confidential mission to Central America. His delicate and important duties there were likewise discharged in such a manner as to secure the entire approval of Mr. Frelinghuysen. Upon the completion of this service Captain Phelps returned to Lima, entered actively upon the performance of his official duties there, and died, as previously stated, while in the Government service.

A few precedents may be here cited to show the action of Congress in similar instances where diplomatic officers have died abroad in the service.

The appropriation act approved March 3, 1879, gave to Mrs. Taylor, widow of Bayard Taylor, who died while minister to Germany, the sum of \$7,000 to compensate his estate for the extraordinary expenses and losses incurred by it in consequence of his death so soon after reaching his post.

The joint resolution approved July 28, 1882, gave to Mrs. Hurlbut, widow of General Hurlbut (Captain Phelps's immediate predecessor), General Hurlbut having died while minister to Peru, one year's salary and legal allowances, after necessary deductions of salary paid.

The joint resolution also approved July 28, 1882, gave to Mrs. Kilpatrick, widow of General Kilpatrick, who died while minister to Chile, one year's salary and legal allowances, after making proper salary deductions.

The joint resolution approved August 1, 1882, gave to Mrs. Garnet, widow of the Rev. Henry Highland Garnet, who died while minister to Liberia, one year's salary and legal allowances, after deducting the amount received up to his death. Mr. Garnet had only been in Liberia a few weeks.

The deficiency bill approved March 3, 1883, gave to Mrs. Marsh, widow of George

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P. Marsh, esq., who died while minister to Italy, the balance of one year's salary reckoned from June 23, 1882.

The act approved December 23, 1884, gave to Mrs. Jane Venable, widow of William E. Venable, esq., who died as minister to Guatemala, the sum of \$5,636.87, being the balance of one year's salary. In this case Mr. Venable was commissioned March 14, 1857, and died at Guatemala August 22 of that year, before presenting his credentials. Consequently the action of Congress dates twenty-seven years after the minister's death.

The deficiency bill approved March 3, 1885, gave to Mrs. Wing, widow of E. Rumsey Wing, esq., who died while minister to Ecuador, and to Mrs. Hunt, widow of William H. Hunt, esq., who died while minister to Russia, a sum equal to six months' salary in each case. Mr. Wing was commissioned minister resident November 16, 1869. Shortly afterwards, however, Congress discontinued the mission to Ecuador.

Under all the circumstances, therefore, I am inclined to the opinion, which, of course, is offered with a due regard to the rights of the committee, that the proposed action of Congress is one both just and worthy of bestowal.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

T. F. BAYARD.

Hon. JOHN SHERMAN,
Acting Chairman Committee on Foreign Relations, U. S. Senate.

No. 17.—*Letter from the Secretary of State to the Hon. John Sherman.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, February 1, 1897.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by your reference hither, of a letter addressed to you by your colleague, the Hon. Frank J. Cannon, dated January 28, 1897, wherewith is inclosed copy of Senate bill 3510, Fifty-fourth Congress, second session, for the relief of Mrs. Verona E. Pollock, widow of Alexander L. Pollock, late consul of the United States at San Salvador, Salvador. Mr. Cannon requests a list of the "cases in which the United States has made appropriations to widows or estates of men who died abroad in our diplomatic service."

The Department's letter addressed to you under date of January 11, 1886, recited a number of precedents of the character described by Senator Cannon. It subsequently became Senate Report No. 238, Forty-ninth Congress, first session, and in that form can doubtless be conveniently consulted by you or by Senator Cannon.

Since then Congress has made provision as follows:

1. To Mrs. Lizzie Maynadier Phelps, widow of Capt. Seth Ledyard Phelps, late envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Peru, one year's salary as said minister, from June 25, 1888. (Act of August 3, 1886, U. S. Stat. L., vol. 24, p. 863.)

2. For payment to the heirs of Alexander Clark, late minister and consul-general to Liberia, the amount of one year's salary of said officer, \$4,000. (Act of July 28, 1892, U. S. Stat. L., vol. 27, p. 283.)

3. To be paid to Mrs. Sarah O. Hanna, widow of Bayless W. Hanna, late minister resident and consul-general, and also commissioned envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Argentine Republic, for expenses and loss in bringing said Hanna from Buenos Ayres to the United States after he was attacked by a fatal disease while at his post and in the discharge of his official duties, which said attack rendered him entirely helpless and from which he died after reaching home, \$5,375. (Act of March 3, 1893, U. S. Stat. L., vol. 27, p. 647.)

4. To pay \$1,000 to Mrs. Celeste H. McCoy, of St. Paul, Minn., widow of the Hon. W. D. McCoy, late minister and consul-general of the United States to Liberia. (Act of March 2, 1895, U. S. Stat. L., vol. 29, p. 865.)

5. To pay to Mrs. Eliza Jaqua Gray, widow of Isaac P. Gray, late United States minister to Mexico, \$8,750. (Act of June 8, 1896, p. 268 of Pamphlet Laws, first session Fifty-fourth Congress, 1895-96.)

It may be added that Mr. Pollock took charge of the office of consul at San Salvador January 5, 1894, and that he died there of yellow fever September 17, 1894. The Department's instructions to him and his dispatches indicate that he was an exceptionally good and accomplished officer.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

RICHARD OLNEY.

Hon. FRANK J. CANNON,
United States Senate.

No. 13.—*Letter from the Assistant Secretary of State to the Hon. Frank J. Cannon.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, February 4, 1897.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, in regard to the relief of Mrs. Verona E. Pollock, widow of Alexander L. Pollock, late consul of the United States at San Salvador.

To throw further light upon the situation and to show Mrs. Pollock's right to the relief sought, you request copies of any correspondence with this Department showing that it has undertaken to recover property left by Mrs. Pollock in Salvador when she was brought away, and which she has been unable to have forwarded from there. You also desire an official statement in regard to the political and sanitary condition of Salvador during Mr. Pollock's incumbency of the office of consul and the faithfulness and efficiency with which he performed his duties during that period.

I reply to your first request, I have the honor to say that when her husband died Mrs. Pollock was stricken by the same disease and was brought away from Salvador an invalid, unable to look after the effects which her husband and herself had there. The vice-consul left in charge of the office promised to collect these effects and send them to San Francisco, but he failed to do so, and neither Mrs. Pollock nor the Department has ever been able to get possession of that property or any part of it. From letters from Mrs. Pollock on file in this Department, it appears that among the effects so lost were some valuable pictures which were originals and which can not be replaced. There is no reason to doubt that the loss of this property has been a great hardship upon Mrs. Pollock. As late as July 15, 1896, the Department wrote to Mr. Otto Munchmeyer, our consul at San Salvador, a letter, a copy of which is inclosed, directing him to make a final effort to obtain and forward Mrs. Pollock's personal property.

There is reason to believe that Mr. Dawson, the vice-consul with whom it was left, has not dealt fairly in the matter. He has for some time been out of office. As of possible interest in this connection, I inclose a copy of a letter from Mrs. Pollock of September 9, 1895, in which she refers to the difficulties experienced by her in getting certain of her personal effects, and mentions "some clothing and valuable paintings" which were at the time in Salvador. Since that date the Department undertook to obtain this property or trace its whereabouts, and I inclose for your information a copy of a dispatch just received from the United States minister at Managua, No. 750, of January 14, 1897, from which it will be seen that all efforts in that direction have been fruitless. One sentence from Mr. John W. Baker's very full report to his father—the son being Secretary of legation—is significant. It reads as follows: "It appears that the property of Mrs. Pollock has been lost, and there does not seem to be any probability of recovering it."

Mr. Pollock was consul at San Salvador about nine months, and during that period the revolution against the Ezetas broke out and ran its course. The Ezetas were overthrown. Antonio Ezeta took refuge on the American war vessel *Bennington*. The victorious revolutionary party demanded his body of the consul, Mr. Pollock. Mr. Pollock's firm and prudent conduct during this critical emergency was sustained by the Department. His advice to the commander of the *Bennington* was wise and was evidently valued by that officer. Throughout that trying period Mr. Pollock, though new to the consular service, acted with admirable sagacity and discretion.

When yellow fever became epidemic his reports, intended to give the exact truth, and as far as possible to allay the tendency to panic, were of great value to the sanitary officers of the United States. He stood at his post and gave the Department the exact facts until the disease laid hold upon him and brought his career to an end in a few days. He had requested leave of absence, to be availed of as soon as conditions permitted. He had no thought of abandoning his post until the existing conditions had passed away.

I do not mean to say that the records of the Department show any heroism on the part of Mr. Pollock, but they do show that he performed his duty in a trying time, when a man of less firmness and devotion to duty would have found some excuse to escape from the perils of the situation.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

W. W. ROCKHILL,
Assistant Secretary.

HON. FRANK J. CANNON,
United States Senate.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *County of Washington*, ss:

Personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for the District of Columbia, Verona E. Pollock, who, being duly sworn, declares that by reason of her past ill health, due to the effects of the mental strain undergone by her during her husband's illness and death at San Salvador, while consul at said place, as well as of the effects of yellow fever contracted by her, she is unable to enumerate with exactness the various articles comprising the household goods and other effects carried by her to San Salvador, and either destroyed or left at said place and never recovered. That the following schedule of some of such effects is correct to the best of her knowledge and belief, and the values placed thereon are reasonable and just, and that such values are estimated as of the value of the articles at the date of their loss.

Affiant further declares that by reason of her physical condition, as well as her mental condition, due to the intense strain through which she passed while with her husband at his post of duty, she has been under constant medical treatment since her return to the United States, and has been unable to engage in any occupation whatever for the support of herself and family, and that she is at present without means or income, and prays that the faithful and meritorious services rendered by her husband to his Government may be recognized.

Library, comprising about forty volumes of miscellaneous subjects	\$100
Oil paintings (three originals); subjects, "Night," "The Knight," and "The Listener," by Farsky, framed in gold-leaf frames. These paintings being among the early efforts of the now famous artist, would have been materially increased in value at the progress of time. Valued at \$700, \$500, and \$450	1, 650
Portraits in oils, two (life size), of deceased children, by Vienna artists, framed in Florentine gold-leaf frames, valued at \$100 each. These paintings can not be duplicated or replaced, and would not have decreased in value on account of being family pictures, for they would have adorned any gallery.	1, 600
Five steel engravings, framed in oak and bronze frames.	155
Bohemian china, hand painted, comprising vases and miscellaneous pieces.	110
Clothing of family, burned by order of sanitary officers	500
Destruction of small pieces of furniture	30
Losses of pieces of jewelry	45
Loss of cash money during illness of self, while unable to look after my own interest	650
Medical attendance of self since illness and return to the United States (Jan., 1897). This illness, caused by the fever, and doctors' bills have amounted to several hundred dollars since that date, and not included herein	740
To this is added one year's salary, which, with fees, amounted to about \$6,000.	

Personally appeared this 9th day of May, A. D. 1898, Verona E. Pollock, and who, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that the above account is true to the best of her knowledge and belief.

VERONA E. POLLOCK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of May, A. D. 1898.

[SEAL.]

ARTHUR BROWNING,
Notary Public, District of Columbia.